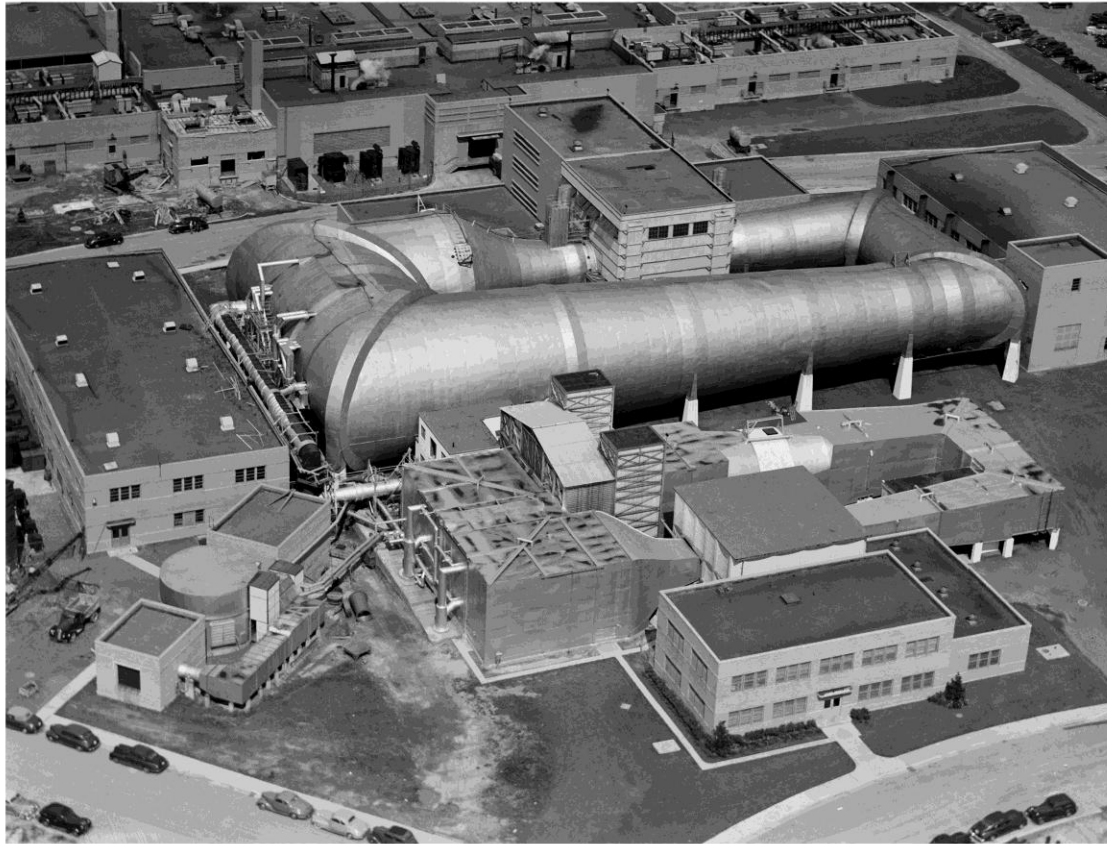


# ALTITUDE WIND TUNNEL DEMOLITION



C-1945-13053

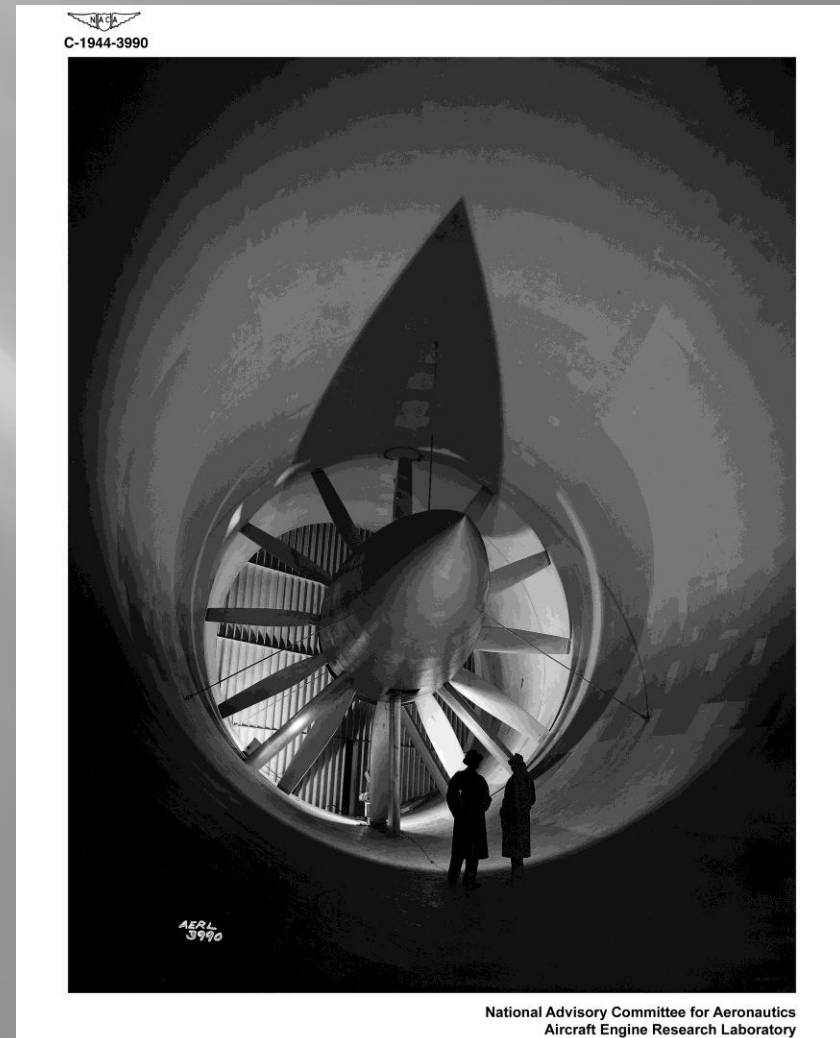


National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics  
Aircraft Engine Research Laboratory

# AWT

## A brief history

- Opened in 1944 as first of its kind facility
- Played a crucial role in developing aeronautics for WWII aircraft
- Helped to develop turbojet, ramjet, and turboprop engines
- Later converted to Space Power Chamber (SPC), allowing it to recreate a space environment
- As SPC served a critical role in the emerging space program



# Reroute of Piping

## Piping rerouted prior to demolition



Steam, condensate, air, and natural gas piping were rerouted prior to demolition activities

# Reroute of Piping

## Piping rerouted prior to demolition



A pipe bridge and pipe supports were installed along the IRT Building for the rerouted pipe; which was then painted for identification



# Reroute of Piping

## Piping rerouted prior to demolition



Pipe bridge installed and painted

# Building 78 Demolition

## Removal of Exterior Walls



Walls are demoed and material is removed from site



# Building 78 Demolition

## Removal of Debris



# Building 78 Demolition

## Slab over remaining foundation



A concrete slab and hatch are installed over the remaining basement



# Exhauster Building

## Removal of Generator



# Exhauster Building

## Removal of Generator – In Progress



A portion of the wall was removed to allow access to the generators



# Exhauster Building

## Removal of Generator – In Progress





# Exhauster Building

## Removal of Generator – Partially Removed



The generators are removed from the building and recycled

# Exhauster Building

## Installation of Floor – Post Demo



Steel decking installed prior to concrete placement



# Exhauster Building

## Installation of Floor – Post Demo



Concrete slab in place of generator foundations



# Demolition of Tunnel

## Lead Abatement



Lead paint had to be removed from all areas to be torch cut prior to removing the outer shell from the tunnel

# Demolition of Tunnel Lead Abatement



A barrier was installed before lead abatement began

# Demolition of Tunnel Lead Abatement



Workers wore personal protective equipment to control lead exposure – a medical exam process was also implemented



# Demolition of Tunnel Lead Abatement



A needle gun was used to remove paint along the welds – where the panels were to be torch cut

# Tunnel Demolition

## Removal of Outer Shell and Insulation



Torch cutting the outer shell – notice shadow of 2 workers; one torching, one serving as a fire watch with hose at hand



# Tunnel Demolition

## Removal of Outer Shell and Insulation



The steel plate outer shell is removed, revealing the insulation



# Tunnel Demolition

## Removal of Outer Shell and Insulation



Insulation is removed, revealing wire fabric below

# Tunnel Demolition

## Removal of Outer Shell and Insulation



Asbestos containing rope used to attach insulation; proper protection was taken due to the material



# Tunnel Demolition

## Removal of Outer Shell and Insulation



First section of outer shell and insulation removed

# Tunnel Demolition

## Removal of Outer Shell and Insulation



Large portion of shell and insulation removed, revealing inner shell



# Tunnel Demolition

## Bulkhead Installed for Space Power Chambers



Bulkhead installed in the early 1960's converting AWT to SPC

# Tunnel Demolition

## Torching and Removal of Inner Shell





# Tunnel Demolition

## Torching and Removal of Inner Shell



# Removing the Main Drive Unit

## Preparing for the Lift



Crane mats are set beneath the crane outriggers and the rigging is prepared prior to the lift



# Removing the Main Drive Unit

## Picking the Load



The fan drive unit is lifted through the roof of the Exhauster Building

# Removing the Main Drive Unit

## Setting the unit





# Removing the Main Drive Unit Disassembly prior to recycling



The unit is cut into manageable sections and removed from the site

# Building 7 Renovation

Capping the tunnel, painting exposed steel, and removing the asbestos containing Transite panels



Upon completion of tunnel demo; tunnel caps were installed and painted, and asbestos containing Transite panels were removed



# Building 7 Renovation

Capping the tunnel, painting exposed steel, and replacing the asbestos containing Transite panels



In progress; notice tunnel cap painted white, and portion of Transite panels removed with new white panels installed

# Building 7 Renovation

Capping the tunnel, painting exposed steel, and replacing the asbestos containing Transite panels



Completed south wall



# Installing New Wheel Chair Ramp

## Placement of new concrete ramp



Providing handicapped accessibility to Building 8

# Nearing Completion

## The site on 7-15-09



To be completed: panel installation, grading, and asphalt paving